

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 2-13 and 17 in the application. Hence, only claim 1 stands rejected. In order to advance the present application to issue, Applicant herewith cancels claim 1, so that only allowable claims 2-13 and 17 remain pending in the application. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to re-confirm the allowability of claims 2-13 and 17, and to pass the application to issue.

Cancellation of claim 1 should not be taken as acquiescing to the appropriateness of the rejection set forth in the Office Action, but as a desire to advance the present application to issue. Hence, Applicants expressly reserve the right to submit similar type claims in another application.

In view of the cancellation of claim 1, Applicant submits it is no longer necessary to discuss the rejection set forth against the claim.

Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims 2-13 and 17 in the application. While Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, as noted by the Examiner, Applicant further wishes to clarify that the claims in the present application recite a combination of features, and the basis for patentability of these claims is based on the totality of the features recited therein.

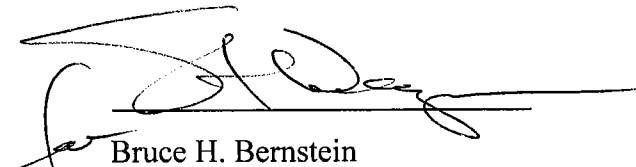
In view of the herein contained cancellation of claim 1, Applicant respectfully requests an indication of the allowability of claims 2-13 and 17. Such action is respectfully requested and is believed to be appropriate and proper.

If any extension of time is deemed to be necessary to maintain the pendency of the application, including any extension of time fees for entry of an Examiner's Amendment, the U.S.

Patent and Trademark Office is hereby requested and authorization is hereby provided to charge any necessary fees to maintain the pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this Response or the current application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Koichi SATO



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

Steven Wegman
Reg. No. 31,438